MINUTES OF THE MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, February 16, 1999
MAG Office Building, Suite 200 - Ocotillo Conference Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Michael Branham, Surprise, Chair Bruce Meyers for Timothy Brand, AZ Dept. of Administration Mickey Ohland, Chandler *Jeff Sargent, DMJM Tami Ryall, Gilbert Richard Janke, Glendale Aaron Iverson, Maricopa County Steve Hancock, Acting Chair, Mesa

* Larry Fudurich, Peoria Richard Clewis, Phoenix Planning Mark Melnychenko, Phoenix Transit *Paul Winslow, Orcutt Winslow Partnership Maureen Mageau-DeCindis, RPTA *Deborah Astin, Scottsdale

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Pat McDermott, Chandler Susan Bookspan, Glendale Dawn Coomer, MAG John Farry, MAG Paul Ward, MAG Tracy Stevens, Peoria Chris Lemka, Phoenix Amy MacAulay, Scottsdale

Eric Iwersen, Tempe

1. Call to Order

Acting Chairman Steve Hancock called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

2. <u>Update on Federally Funded Pedestrian Project Selection Process</u>

This agenda item was discussed jointly with the Regional Bicycle Task Force since the TRC has combined bicycle and pedestrian projects for ranking purposes. Paul Ward provided an update of the selection of Federally funded bicycle projects. He began by distributing an updated copy of the staff option developed with guidance from the Transportation Review Committee (TRC). He explained the initial modal allocation given as guidance by the TRC, and noted that the pedestrian and bicycle projects had been combined since few pedestrian projects had been submitted. He explained how the staff option was developed and mentioned that the TRC was discussing different match rates for higher cost projects. Steve Hancock asked why bikes receive less than the TRC guidance of \$4 million annually, and John Farry asked if it was because only three years were programmed. Tami asked if combining bike and

pedestrian projects resulted in some pedestrian projects not being selected for funding. Dawn Coomer noted that the Pedestrian Working Group (PWG) had ranked both pedestrian and multi-use path projects, and that the Task Force had ranked several multi-use path projects lower than the PWG. Paul responded that the combined projects included rankings of both committees.

Susan Bookspan noted that the expensive projects are necessary to provide connections, and that as retrofit projects, they were more expensive. She was concerned about the burden of a higher match rates on these projects. Pat McDermott asked how much was available per year. Paul noted that the bicycle and pedestrian modes received far more funding than they used to. Pat asked if the committee desired to ask the TRC for additional funding for bike and pedestrian projects. Maureen Mageau-DeCindis agreed with Pat. John Farry added that the level of CMAQ funding doubled with the passage of TEA-21, and that programming only three years of the program allowed more time to develop projects. Richard Janke asked for an explanation of where the additional funding was allocated, and Steve Hancock noted that some of the funding went to dial-a-ride improvements. Aaron Iverson moved to respect the original allocation of funds made by the TRC (\$2 million for pedestrian projects and \$2 million for bicycle projects). Richard Janke seconded the motion.

The committee discussed the motion, with Tami noting that dial-a-ride improvements should be funded out of the transit allocation. Amy MacAulay agreed. Maureen added that the incremental match may harm future projects which are expensive due to complexity. Pat explained the reasoning behind the match: to show local commitment to projects, and to allow more projects to be funded (perhaps from smaller jurisdictions). Aaron Iverson voiced support for multi-use path projects. John asked about the status of the bicycle education project. Paul noted that this program will be a component of the larger Rideshare program overseen by RPTA. Steve Hancock asked if this would come from the transit allocation, and noted that something was needed from RPTA to show how the funds would be used. Maureen explained that the bicycle education would be a component of overall trip reduction education efforts.

Paul Ward added that there was less than six months to obligate advance design of bicycle funds, and asked the Task Force to identify these projects as soon as possible. Paul asked Eric Iwersen if the pedestrian project along Apache could be accelerated to FY 1999, and Eric responded that it could.

Steve asked for a vote on the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The PWG decided to make a similar motion. Aaron Iverson moved to respect the original allocation of funds made by the TRC (\$2 million for pedestrian projects and \$2 million for bicycle projects). Richard Janke seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The PWG adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

3. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.